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Amendments to Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-75 (Canceled).

76. (Currently Amended) A thermally bonded nonwoven fabric comprising at least one multiple nonwoven layer layers of spunbond hard yarn meltspun polyolefin fibers, and at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about 75 μm^2 , and wherein at least one hard yarn meltspun nonwoven layer has a repellent fluorocarbon finish, said fabric having a basis weight between about 13-125 g/m², a grab tensile strength in both the machine- and cross-directions at least about 1 N/(g/m²), normalized for basis weight, and a combination of Frazier permeability at least about 10 and up to about 30 m³/min-m² and hydrostatic head between about 75 and 99 cm.

77. (Canceled).

78. (Canceled).

79. (Currently Amended) A thermally bonded nonwoven fabric comprising at least one multiple nonwoven layer layers of spunbond hard yarn meltspun polyolefin fibers, and at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about 75 μm^2 , and wherein at least one hard yarn meltspun nonwoven layer has a repellent fluorocarbon finish, said fabric having a basis weight between about 13-125 g/m², a grab tensile strength in both the machine- and cross-directions at least about 1 N/(g/m²), normalized for basis weight, and a combination of Frazier permeability at least about 15 and up to about 30 m³/min-m² and hydrostatic head between about 75 and 99 cm.

80. (Canceled).

81. (Currently Amended) The thermally bonded nonwoven fabric of ~~any of claims 76-79~~ claim 76 or 79, wherein two nonwoven layers of hard yarn meltspun polyolefin spunbond fibers are bonded to opposite sides of a nonwoven layer of meltblown polyolefin fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about 75 μm^2 comprising fibers having an average fiber size of less than about 75 μm^2 .

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82. (Canceled).

83. (Currently Amended) A garment comprising a thermally bonded nonwoven fabric having at least one multiple nonwoven layer layers of spunbond hard yarn meltspun polyolefin fibers, and at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about 75 μm^2 , and wherein at least one hard yarn meltspun nonwoven layer has a repellent fluorocarbon finish, said fabric having a basis weight between about 13-125 g/m², a grab tensile strength in both the machine- and cross-directions at least about 1 N/(g/m²), normalized for basis weight, and a combination of Frazier permeability at least about 10 and up to about 30 m³/min-m² and hydrostatic head between about 75 and 99 cm.

84. (Canceled).

85. (Canceled).

86. (Currently Amended) A garment comprising a thermally bonded nonwoven fabric having at least one multiple nonwoven layer layers of spunbond hard yarn meltspun polyolefin fibers, and at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about 75 μm^2 , and wherein at least one hard yarn meltspun nonwoven layer has a repellent fluorocarbon finish, said fabric having a basis weight between about 13-125 g/m², a grab tensile strength in both the machine- and cross-directions at least about 1 N/(g/m²), normalized for basis weight, and a combination of Frazier permeability at least about 15 and up to about 30 m³/min-m² and hydrostatic head between about 75 and 99 cm.

87. (Currently Amended) The garment of any of claims ~~83-86~~ claim 83 or 86, further comprising a fluorochemical coating deposited on said nonwoven layer of spunbond fibers wherein two nonwoven layers of hard yarn meltspun polyolefin spunbond fibers are bonded to opposite sides of a nonwoven layer of meltblown polyolefin fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about 75 μm^2 .

88. (Canceled).

89. (Currently Amended) The thermally bonded nonwoven fabric of claim 76 or 79, which has a hydrostatic head between about 80 and 99 cm.

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90. (Canceled).

91. (Currently Amended) The garment of claim 83 or 86, which wherein said thermally bonded nonwoven fabric has a hydrostatic head between about 80 and 99 cm.

92. (Canceled).

93. (Currently Amended) The thermally bonded nonwoven fabric of claim 76 or 79, which has a cross sectional void percentage of at least about 85 percent.

94. (Currently Amended) The garment of claim 83 or 86, wherein the thermally bonded nonwoven fabric has a cross sectional void percentage of at least about 85 percent.

Please add the following new claims:

95. (New) The thermally bonded nonwoven fabric of claim 76 or 79, wherein said at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about $75 \mu\text{m}^2$ comprises fibers having cross-sectional areas in the range from about 6 to about $54 \mu\text{m}^2$.

96. (New) The garment of claim 83 or 86, wherein said at least one nonwoven polyolefin layer comprising fibers having cross-sectional areas of less than about $75 \mu\text{m}^2$ comprises fibers having cross-sectional areas in the range from about 6 to about $54 \mu\text{m}^2$.